

Cleaning the Kindergarten

“Until the period of about the seventh year when the child undergoes the change of teeth, the child lives fully given up to his surroundings. The child is, as one might say, altogether “sense”. As the eye lives in colour, so does the whole child live in the expressions of the life of their environment.” R. Steiner: Education and the Moral Life

With this in mind, please enjoy yourself, relax and take your time. If we take up our tasks with love, joy and enthusiasm, this mood will be left in the room for the children to absorb. Your care and cleaning of the Kindergarten is an important and much appreciated task. Thank you for your valued contribution.

Cleaning materials

Hoover – lives in the teachers’ cupboard in the main room or in the adult toilet.

Cleaning materials – the cleaning products live above the lobby sink or above the sink in the adult toilet out of reach of the children.

Cleaning cloths, plastic bin liners, hoover bags, dusters and everything else you will need to clean is kept under the main kitchen sink in Kindergarten. Please use the blue ‘jay cloths’ for cleaning the toilets and dispose of them afterwards. Pink microfibre cloths are for sinks and white dish cloths can be used to wipe the kitchen surfaces and tables.

Rubber gloves for wearing when cleaning the toilets live with the toilet cleaning products or with the specified cleaning bucket under the lobby sink or next to the toilet. They are labelled ‘toilet’.

Mops and buckets – there are separate mops and buckets for the toilet area and the main room and lobby. These are clearly labelled and can be hung up outside to air after use, not touching each

other. The mops and buckets live in the main room under the sink or in the toilet area.

Natural disinfectant – this is a combination of tea tree and lavender essential oils, vinegar and water and is kept in labelled spray bottles with the other cleaning materials.

Bins – There are separate bins for compost, household rubbish and recycling. There is a recycling point for paper at the front of the school in the main recycling area and also a bin for general household waste. Please ensure compost is placed in the correct area of the KG compost in the big garden (if you are unsure, please ask your teacher. An adult needs to do this job). Other recyclables (glass and plastic etc.) will have to be taken home with you, as it's not recycled here.

Brooms, dustpans and brushes – these usually live in the kitchen area. There are also outdoor brushes, which live in the entrance area of each Kindergarten.

Weekend cleaning

Main room

- Move all of the furniture and play equipment away from the walls and vacuum right up to the edges and into the corners.
- Dust over the skirting boards, heaters and window sills. Remove any cob webs.
- Clean the tables
- Water the plants if needed
- Remove any dead flowers, but please leave the nature table. Fresh seasonal flowers and foliage are always welcome.

Kitchen and hard floor area

- Sweep or vacuum the floor and mop it using the kitchen mop provided

- Clean the hob, the work top surfaces, the sinks and draining board. Spray with natural disinfectant afterwards.
- Clean the cutlery drainer (where applicable)
- Wipe down the kitchen cupboard doors
- Empty bins and compost, replace bags and wash out the compost bin

Lobby and toilets

- Clean the toilets and sink, spray natural disinfectant afterwards and replace any toilet rolls
- Vacuum or sweep the floor and then mop it.
- Wipe benches and any muddy marks from the lobby walls and heaters
- Beat the doormat outside and clean underneath it
- Sweep outside porch using the outdoor broom provided

Laundry

- Take the bag of laundry home and return by Monday please
- **Please ensure that the Kindergarten laundry is washed separately from your own laundry on a 90 C wash. This is a requirement for infection control purposes.**

Before you go home, please make sure that everything your child might have played with (indoors and outdoors) is tidied away and that all windows and doors are closed.

Finally, now that the Kindergarten is shining brightly, please bless the space for the children before you leave and phone the next family on the cleaning rota to remind them of their turn.

**A heartfelt 'thank you' from all of the children and your teachers.
Happy cleaning to you all!**

Half-term and holiday cleaning

The normal weekly clean is to be carried out on the first weekend of any holiday please. This prevents the room from becoming unhygienic and musty whilst not in use.

During the holiday we ask that a few extra cleaning tasks be done (see below).

The 'freshen up' clean before returning to school should be done on the last weekend of the holiday, unless otherwise asked by your teacher.

Holiday tasks

- Tidy out and wash the cupboard under the sink
- Clean the oven inside and the hob thoroughly
- Wash down the kitchen tiles
- Clean the kitchen shelves
- Dust the wall lights and remove any cobwebs from the room and lobby
- Clean the windows, inside and out (including the ones around the side and back of the Kindergarten)
- Clean the doormats thoroughly
- Water the plants

